Free grant of building materials to the poor people for the reconstruction of houses destroyed by accidental fires.

READ—

Government Order No. R. 2888-97—R. M. 16-25-3, dated 5th December 1925, enhancing the powers of the Sub-Division Officers and the Deputy Commissioners in the matter of granting building materials to sufferers from accidental fires to the extent of Rs. 50 and Rs. 75, respectively, in each case.

2. Government Order No. R. 6250-60—R. M. 1-30-62, dated 14th May 1931, empowering the Deputy Commissioners of Districts to grant relief in deserving cases up to a limit of Rs. 15 worth of unreserved wood from District Forests to persons who suffer loss from accidental fires irrespective of the fact that they pay no kandayam or pay kandayam less than Rs. 15.

3. Government Order No. G. 4070-3—Ft. 32-37-4, dated 23rd November 1937, sanctioning the free grant of building materials not exceeding Rs. 15 in value in each case, calculated at the existing seigniorage rates either from the District or State Forests for the construction of dwelling houses to applicants of all communities if they are found by the Deputy Commissioners to be poor and deserving.

4. Letter No. C. 4174—37-38, dated 18th May 1938, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore requesting orders, among other things, to extend the scope of the Government Order of 23rd November 1937 read above, so as to include cases where the free grant of building materials is required to re-build houses destroyed by fire as well.

5. Correspondence ending with letter No. D. 3—34-329—37, dated the 11th September 1939, from the Chief Conservator of Forests on the subject.

ORDER No. A. F. 1826-37—FT. 1-37-16, DATED BANGALORE, THE 14TH OCTOBER 1939.

Under the rules in force, the Revenue Officers had no powers to sanction the free grant of building materials from the State Forests either for the construction of dwelling houses or for the re-building of houses destroyed by accidental fires. But in their Order No. G. 4070-3—Ft. 32-37-4, dated 23rd November 1937, Government authorised the Deputy Commissioners to sanction the free grant of building materials not exceeding Rs. 15 in value from the State Forests also in deserving cases to the poor and deserving applicants of all communities for the construction of dwelling houses. The Revenue Commissioner thereupon requested Government to extend the scope of the Government order of 23rd November 1937, referred to above, so as to include cases of re-building of houses destroyed by accidental fire as well. This question which was engaging the attention of Government was brought up for discussion at the meeting of officers held on 14th August 1939, when it was agreed that the Deputy Commissioners may sanction the money value of the free grant and intimate the fact to the District Forest Officers who will thereupon issue *mafi licenses* specifying the names of the State Forests, etc., from which the materials should be removed. The Chief Conservator of Forests now recommends that this practice may be allowed to continue for a period of two years subject to revision thereafter if necessary. Government are pleased to sanction the same.

J. APPAJI GOWDA,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Administration Report of the Public Health Department for the calendar year 1938.

READ—

Report on the Administration of the Public Health Department for the calendar year 1938, received from the Director of Public Health in Mysore with his letter No. V. S. 290, dated 21st August 1939.

ORDER No. 3701-24—P. H. 22-39-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 23RD—26TH OCTOBER 1939.

Recorded.

2. *Public Health.*—Except for a rise in the incidence of plague, public health was generally satisfactory. Five thousand, one hundred and ninety six deaths from